

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 19779 180957Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00  
INRE-00 SCS-06 CA-01 HA-05 SMS-01 /065 W  
-----023217 180959Z /21  
O 180955Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5734  
INFO USICA WASHDC

UNCLAS MOSCOW 19779

USICA FOR EU

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: OGEN, SOPN, UR, US  
SUBJECT: SLANDER CHARGES AGAINST TWO U.S.  
CORRESPONDENTS

REF: MOSCOW 19722

1. IN COURT SESSION BEGINNING 1100 HRS AUGUST  
18 JUDGE ALMAZOV ANNOUNCED THAT GOSTELERADIO  
WAS DROPPING ITS CASE AGAINST CRAIG WHITNEY AND  
HAL PIPER, SAYING THAT THE WIDE PUBLICITY  
GIVEN THE CASE, INCLUDING IN THE NEW YORK TIMES  
AND THE BALTIMORE SUN HAS CONVINCED WORLD PUBLIC  
OPINION THAT THE TWO ACCUSED ARE IN FACT GUILTY  
OF SLANDER AS CHARGED, THAT GAMSAKHURDIA'S  
CONFESSION WAS VOLUNTARY AND GENUINE. THERE-  
FORE, THE QUESTION OF PRINTING A RETRACTION WAS  
IRRELEVANT AND THERE WAS NO NEED TO CONTINUE THE  
CASE.

2. ADDRESSING THE ASSEMBLED US AND OTHER PRESS  
IN THE COURTROOM (ABSENT WHITNEY AND PIPER),  
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 19779 180957Z

JUDGE ALMAZOV THEN SAID THAT THE DISRESPECTFUL  
BEHAVIOR OF THE TWO DEFENDANTS TOWARD THE  
COURT IN NOT ATTENDING ANY OF THE COURT PRO-  
CEEDINGS WOULD BE REPORTED TO THE MINISTRY OF  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS. TOON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COURT DECISIONS, JOURNALISTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Subject:** SLANDER CHARGES AGAINST TWO U.S. CORRESPONDENTS  
**TAGS:** OGEN, SOPN, UR, US, (WHITNEY, CRAIG), (PIPER, HAL)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014